

## Resident Agreement to Accept Differences

\_\_\_\_\_ seeks to create a "*culture of recovery*" in which residents are  
(Name of program)

expected to participate fully. *A culture of recovery* is open to anyone living with alcohol/drug addiction. In this spirit, \_\_\_\_\_ does not tolerate behavior that discriminates against anyone,

(Name of program)

including members of the following groups of people who have faced prejudice, discrimination, rejection, and oppression:

- Women
- Non-English Speakers
- People with HIV/AIDS and Other Illnesses
- People Taking Prescription Medications
- People of Differing Races, Cultures, Ethnicities
- People of Varying Religious Beliefs
- Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered Individuals
- People of Differing Socio-Economic Backgrounds
- Addicted Individuals
- Methadone Maintained Individuals
- Mentally Ill Individuals
- Physically Challenged Individuals
- People of Differing Ages

For many alcoholics and drug addicts, the pain of rejection has often fueled their addictive patterns. Therefore, it is important that staff and residents work together to ensure that this program provides a safe environment where ***all*** residents can nurture their recovery.

Strong negative feelings toward other individuals can have a detrimental effect on the serenity needed to nurture and sustain your recovery. If you have strong negative feelings toward others, it is important that you share them with your counselor, who can help you to work through them so they will not create unnecessary barriers to your recovery.

If you think that you have been mistreated or have witnessed mistreatment of another individual by program staff or residents, it is important that you bring this mistreatment to the attention of an appropriate support person (for example, a staff person, your sponsor, your buddy, etc.) or forum (for example, a group, community meeting, 12-step meeting, etc.) so that you can receive help in addressing the problem.

*I agree to participate fully in a culture of recovery by accepting differences in the people around me and by working with staff and residents to create and maintain an emotionally safe and supportive environment within this program.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Resident

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Staff

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

